



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Cuyahoga Valley  
National Park

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[www.nps.gov/cuva](http://www.nps.gov/cuva)  
[www.dayinthevalley.com](http://www.dayinthevalley.com)

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## Cuyahoga Valley National Park News Release

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### Irish Music in the Cuyahoga Valley

**Brecksville, Ohio** - On Friday, September 15, the innovative young Irish ensemble *Gráda* will perform as part of the Cuyahoga Valley Heritage Series at 8 p.m. at Happy Days Visitor Center in Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP). Taking their influences from Irish, Breton, eastern European, and other diverse regional styles, *Gráda* complement their instrumental virtuosity with an elegant, timeless vocal style.

In the four years since the release of their debut album, *Gráda* (Irish for “illustrious”) has toured heavily, continuing to broaden and refine their sound. Now well established in Irish music circles, *Gráda*, both collectively and individually, continue to win new fans via an intense concert schedule and numerous appearances as sidemen. Flutist Alan Doherty is widely heralded for his solo performance on the film score of *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy and *Gráda*’s second album, *The Landing Step* was selected by the Indie Acoustic Project awards as the best Celtic CD of 2004. It was also voted one of the top five folk CDs of 2004 by *Irish Music Magazine*.

Band members include Alan Doherty (flutes and vocals), Nicola Joyce (vocals), Andrew Laking (double bass and vocals), Brendan O'Sullivan (fiddle, violas, vocals), and Gerry Paul (guitar, bouzouki, vocals). Together *Gráda* balances original, contemporary, and traditional elements to create a sound that is at once accessible and refreshingly distinct.

The Cuyahoga Valley Heritage Series, presented by the National Park Service and Cuyahoga Valley National Park Association (CVNPA), celebrates the cultural legacy of the Cuyahoga Valley. Admission: \$15 adults, \$10 CVNPA members, and \$5 children 3 - 12. General seating. Advance ticket sales are available by calling (330) 657- 2909. Doors open at 7 p.m.

Create your own subscription series and enjoy three great concerts for one low price. No cash refunds, but tickets may be exchanged until ten days before the concert. \$40 adults, \$25 CVNPA members, \$15 children 3- 12. Gift subscriptions are available. For more information about the subscriber series, call (330) 657- 2909.

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Friday, September 15

**Gráda**

*Gráda* is a young, innovative ensemble poised at the brink of international recognition for its multi-faceted take on traditional Celtic music. Taking its influences from Irish, Breton, eastern European, and other styles, *Gráda* compliments its instrumental virtuosity with an elegant, timeless vocal style. *Gráda* members include Alan Doherty (flute and vocals), widely heralded for his solo performance on the film score of *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy, Nicola Joyce (bodhrán, fiddle, whistles, and vocals), Andrew Laking (double bass, guitar, and vocals), Brendan O'Sullivan (fiddle, viola, and vocals), and Gerry Paul (guitar and bouzouki).

Sunday, September 24

**Old Blind Dogs**

*Old Blind Dogs* is a band on the cutting edge of Scotland's roots revival. Dynamic percussion and bluesy harmonica blend with small pipes, whistle, and a fine blend of guitar, cittern, mandolin and fiddle. Pair this fine instrumentation with rich vocals and a wonderful feel for the traditional, and you can understand why *Old Blind Dogs'* U.S. tours have cemented them a loyal following. *This concert begins at 7:30 p.m.*

Saturday, September 30

**Sunpie Jazz Reunion with Mo' Mojo Mama**

Following in the footsteps of the last year's New Orleans Jazz benefit concert, CVNP will reunite New Orleans musicians and Park Rangers Bruce 'Sunpie' Barnes and Matt Hampsey with members of *Mo' Mojo Mama* for an evening of great music. From jazz, zydeco, Afro-Caribbean, and blues, Sunpie (accordion, harmonica, and vocals) and Matt (guitar) combine history and musical talent to present the gumbo of musical styles that is New Orleans.

Saturday, October 21

**Mountain Rose Fall Concert: Mustard's Retreat**

Having celebrated their thirtieth anniversary as *Mustard's Retreat*, David Tamulevich (guitar, dulcimer, mandolin, harmonica, and penny whistle) and Michael Hough (electric bass) are enjoying what they do best, connecting with people through their music. An opening act features Lisa and Heather Malyuk. Their performances feature hammered dulcimer coupled with inventive guitar playing. For more information and tickets visit [www.mountainroseconcerts.org](http://www.mountainroseconcerts.org) or call (330) 733-8845 or CVNPA at (330) 657-2909. *Admission: \$15 (door), \$12 (advance), and \$7.50 children 3 - 12.*

Saturday, November 4

**The Wiyos**

Incorporating physical comedy and theatricality, *The Wiyos* create an interactive show in the tradition of performers like Fats Waller, Spike Jones and Uncle Dave Macon. Passionate about infusing old-time American music with new blood, *The Wiyos* play vaudevillian ragtime blues, early swing, jugband and old time country. This energetic trio is composed of Joseph "joebass" DeJarnette (upright bass), Michael Farkas (harmonica, washboard, kazoo, banjo, and vocals) and Parrish Ellis (guitar and vocals).

Friday, December 1

**The Wailin' Jennys**

Dubbed "one of the most exciting new folk bands" by Barnes and Noble, *The Wailin' Jennys* are Annabelle Chvostek, Nicky Mehta, and Ruth Moody - three distinct voices that together make an aching perfect vocal sound. With their fresh folk-pop sound, stunning 3-part vocals, and eclectic mix of accordion, banjo, harmonica, mandolin, violin, guitar, and percussion, *The Wailin' Jennys* embrace many musical styles including alt-country, Celtic, rock, and traditional.

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*Monday, December 18*

**Celtic Christmas Special: Cherish the Ladies**

For nearly two decades, the name of a time-honored Irish traditional jig has become equally well known as the name for one of the most engaging ensembles in Irish music: *Cherish the Ladies*. They have grown from a one-time concert concept to an Irish traditional music sensation, literally the most successful and sought-after Irish-American group in Celtic music history. With their unique spectacular blend of virtuosi instrumental talents, beautiful vocals, captivating arrangements, and stunning step dancing, this powerhouse group combines all the facets of Irish traditional culture and puts it forth in an immensely humorous and entertaining package. *Admission: \$22 adults, \$20 CVNPA members, \$10 children 3 - 12. This concert begins at 7:30 p.m.*

Happy Days Visitor Center, located at 500 West Streetsboro Road (State Route 303) in Peninsula, 1 mile west of State Route 8, is a restored Civilian Conservation Corps structure that provides a rustic ambiance for folk and traditional concerts, theater, lectures, and ranger-led programs.

CVNP encompasses 33,000 acres along the Cuyahoga River between Cleveland and Akron. Managed by the National Park Service, CVNP combines cultural, historical, recreational, and natural activities in one setting. Visitors can hike, bike, birdwatch, golf, fish, ski, ride Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad, explore the history of the Ohio & Erie Canal on a 20-mile section of the Towpath Trail, and attend national park ranger-guided programs, concerts, art exhibits and more. For more information about the park, visit [www.nps.gov/cuva/](http://www.nps.gov/cuva/) or [www.dayinthevalley.com/](http://www.dayinthevalley.com/) or call (216) 524-1497 or (800) 445-9667.

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